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**COUNCIL PAPERS, 1698-1701.**

(From the originals in the Virginia State Library.)

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(CONTINUED)

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**THE DEATH OF KING WILLIAM.**

Whitehall March y<sup>e</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 1701½

Sir

Inclosed you receive an Order from the Lords of her Matys most hon'ble privy Council notifying to you the death of our late gracious Sovereign of ever blessed memory and directing you to proclaim the high and mighty Princess Anne Queen of England Scotland France & Ireland and of all the Dominions thereunto belonging &c. Defender of the faith &c. We do earnestly Recommend to you that you proceed without loss of time in the execution of those Orders, and that her Majesty be accordingly proclaimed in the most solemn manner and most proper parts of yo<sup>r</sup> Government. And for yo<sup>r</sup> informacon we further send you, Her Maty's Declaration at her first sitting in her privy Council. Her Matys proclamation for continuing all Officers &c. The Address of the House of Lords to her Maj<sup>ty</sup><sup>ie</sup>. The Address of the House of Commons to her Maty. And her Matys speech to both Houses of Parliament.

You are upon this occasion to assure all her Matys Subjects under yo<sup>r</sup> Governm<sup>t</sup> of her Matys especial care and protection, and to exhort them to do on their parts what is necessary for their security and defence in the present Conjuncture, and you are to return a speedy acco<sup>t</sup> of yo<sup>r</sup> proceedings herein.

You will receive a Warrant under her Matys Royal Signature impowering you to continue the use of the publick Seal. So we bid you heartily farewell.

Yo<sup>r</sup> very Loving Friends.

Stamford

Lexington

Ph. Meadows

John Pollexfen

Mat. Prior.

For her Matys especial Service

For the hon<sup>ble</sup> Francis Nicholson Esq<sup>r</sup> her Matys Lieu<sup>t</sup> and Gov<sup>r</sup> Genll of her Matys Colony & Dominion of Virginia in America. Or for the Comm<sup>der</sup> in chief of the s<sup>d</sup> Colony for the time being.

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GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL OF VIRGINIA TO QUEEN ANNE.

To the Queens most Excellent Maj<sup>ty</sup>

Most Gracious Sovereign

We yo<sup>r</sup> Matys most loyal and dutifull Subjects Yo<sup>r</sup> Matys Govern<sup>r</sup> & Council of this yo<sup>r</sup> Matys ancient Colony & Dominion of Virginia are deeply sensible of the much lamented loss of our late Royal Sovereign William y<sup>e</sup> third of glorious & happy memory.

We acknowledge the blessing of Almighty God in supplying the Throne with yo<sup>r</sup> Matys sacred person, and humbly congratulate yo<sup>r</sup> Matys happy accession to the Crownes of England Scotland, France, Ireland and the Dominions and Territorys thereunto belonging. Yo<sup>r</sup> Matys just and indisputable right & title thereunto we have solemnly and with one heart & voice proclaimed, And do assure yo<sup>r</sup> Maty of our fervent zeal and unalterable affection and fidelity to yo<sup>r</sup> Matys sacred person and Governm<sup>t</sup>, which we will defend to y<sup>e</sup> utmost of our power ag<sup>t</sup> the pretended Prince of Wales and all other yo<sup>r</sup> Matys

enemys whatsoever. And do pray Almighty God that he will give yo<sup>r</sup> Maty a long & happy Reign over us.

Fr: Nicholson  
William Byrd  
E Jenings  
J Lightfoot  
Benj Harrison  
Robert Carter  
Jas. Blair.

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COMMISSION OF EDMUND JENINGS\* AS SECRETARY OF STATE OF VIRGINIA.

William the third by the Grace of God King of England Scotland France and Ireland Defender of y<sup>e</sup> faith &c. To all to whom these presents shall come Greeting Know ye that we of our especial grace, certain knowledge & meer motion have given & granted and by these presents do give & Grant unto our Trusty & welbeloved Edmund Jenings Esq<sup>r</sup> the place & office of Secretary of and in our Colony of Virginia in America in the roome of Ralph Wormeley Esq<sup>r</sup> dece<sup>d</sup> late Secretary there, And him the s<sup>d</sup> Edmund Jenings Secretary of & in our said Colony of Virginia, We do by these presents make Ordain & constitute, To have hold exercise & enjoy the s<sup>d</sup> place & office unto the s<sup>d</sup> Edm<sup>d</sup> Jenings by him self or his Sufficient Deputy or Deputys during our pleasure, Together with all fees, Rights, priviledges profits perquisites & advantages to the s<sup>d</sup> Office or place belonging or in any wise appertaining in as full & ample manner to all intents and purposes as the said Ralph Wormeley or any other person formerly held received or enjoyed or ought to have held received or enjoyed the same during our will and pleasure. And we do hereby Require and Command the said Edmund Jenings actually to reside in the Town of Williamsburg in our said Colony during y<sup>e</sup> time of his being Secretary thereof,

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\*Edmund Jenings, son of Sir Edmund Jenings, of Ripon, Yorkshire, England, settled in Virginia, where his seat was "Ripon Hall," York Co. He was long a man of prominence, Attorney General, Member of Council, Secretary of State and Acting Governor. For Governor Jenings and his family see this Magazine IV, 366; VI, 398, 399; XII, 306-310.

and that he be not absent from thence without our Licence first had & obtained in that behalf, Provided always that if the s<sup>d</sup> Edmund Jenings shall be absent from the s<sup>d</sup> Town for ye space of one month at any one time after he shall have taken on himself the s<sup>d</sup> Office, & been within ye s<sup>d</sup> Colony of Virginia contrary to our will and pleasure afores<sup>d</sup>. Then & in such case these our Letters patents & everything therein contained shall cease determine & be void. In witness whereof we have caused these our Letters to be made patents Witness our Self at Westminster the second day of february in the thirteenth year of our Reign.

By writt of privy Seal  
Cocks.

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BOND OF EDMUND JENINGS AS SECRETARY OF STATE.

Noverint universe per presentes nos Edmundum Jenings de Comitatu York Colonia Virginiae Armiger, Petrum Beverley de Comit. Glocester, Guilielmum Tayloe de Comitatu Richmond et Gaim Corbin de Comit. Middlesex in eadam Colonia Generosos teneri et firmiter obligari Serenissimae Dnae nost Annae Dei gratiae Angliae Scotiae ffranciae et Hiberniae Reginae fidei defensor &c Haeridibus vel Successoribus suis in quinq mille Libris bonae et legalis monetae Angliae solvend eadem Dnae Reginae haeredibus vel Successoribus suis ad quam quidem solutienem bene et fidelater faciend obligamus nos et unium queinq nostrum per se pro toto et in solido. Haeredes Executores et Admin<sup>res</sup> nros firmiter per pntes. Sigillis nris Sigillat Dat vicesimo tertio die mensis Junij Anno Regin. Annae Reginae primo Annoq Dni 1702.

The condition of this obligacon is such that whereas the above bounden Edmund Jenings is by his late Matys Commission bearing date the second day of february 170½ appointed Secretary of the Colony and Dominion of Virginia, and their Excell<sup>ys</sup> the Lords Justices by their Instructions dated the thirteenth day of September one thousand six hundred ninety eight having directed that the Secretary of Virginia for the time being give security for the faithfull discharge of the said Office:

Now if the said Edmund Jenings shall take all possible care that the Records under his care be well & faithfully kept and shall according to the best of his skill and ability faithfully discharge the Trust reposed in him, that then this Obligation to be void and of none effect, otherwise to remain in full force & vertue.

E Jenings (Seal)

Peter Beverley (Seal)

Will Tayloe (Seal)

G Corbin (Seal)

Sealed & delivered in the presence of

Benja Harrison

R Beverley

Wil Robertson

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SEAL OF VIRGINIA.

Anne R.

Anne by the Grace of God of England Scotland France & Ireland Queen, Defender of the faith &c. To our Trusty & welbeloved Francis Nicholson Esq<sup>r</sup> our Lieutenant and Governor General of our Colony and Dominion of Virginia in America, or to the Commander in chief for the time being Greeting. We do hereby authorize you to use the Seal of that our Colony w<sup>th</sup> you have last used and have at present in yo<sup>r</sup> possession for sealing all things whatsoever that pass the Seal in our said Colony untill we shall give Order for another Seal to be made with our own Royal name and Inscription. Given at our Court at S<sup>t</sup> James's the 30<sup>th</sup> day of March 1702 in the first year of our Reign.

By her Matys Command  
Manchester.

Whitehall April y<sup>e</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> 1702

Sir

We send you here inclosed the warrant under her Matys Royal Signature Impowering you to continue at present y<sup>e</sup> use of the publick Seal of her Colony & Dominion of Virginia under

your Government, which we mentioned in ours of the 19<sup>th</sup> of the last moneth. So We bid you heartily farewell.

Yo<sup>r</sup> very Loving friends

Stamford

Lexington

Rob: Cecill

Ph: Meadows

W<sup>m</sup> Blathwayt

John Pollexfen

Mat Prior

Francis Nicholson Esq<sup>r</sup>

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SECRETARIES OF STATE OF ENGLAND TO THE GOVERNOR OF  
VIRGINIA

Whitehall 18<sup>th</sup> April 1702

Sir

Your Government being within my Province as one of her Matys principal Secretarys of State, I would not omitt to give you notice of it, and to desire you will be pleased to give me such accounts from time to time of what occurs there as you shall think fitt to impart to me for her Matys service. I take this occasion of assuring you that I shall always be very ready to serve you in my Station, and that I am with truth

S<sup>r</sup>

Your most humble Servant  
Manchester.

Whitehall May 7<sup>th</sup> 1702

Sir

The Queen having been pleased to constitute me one of her principal Secretarys of State, It is necessary that I should informe you of it, that for the future you may direct to me such Letters as relate to her majestys Service, and I desire you from time to time to acquaint me with such things as occur in yo<sup>r</sup> parts.

And I am commanded to acquaint you that Her Majesty has declared War against France and Spain as you will see by the enclosed Declaration, and to signify her Maj<sup>ties</sup> pleasure to you that you cause it to be proclaimed in the places under your Government, that her Subjects having this notice may take care to prevent any mischiefs which otherwise they might Suffer from the Enemy, and do their duty in their Several Stations to annoy the Subjects of France & Spain.

I must also acquaint you, the Emperor and the States General of the United Provinces have also declared War against France an Spain. I am

Yo<sup>r</sup> most humble Servant  
Nottingham

To Francis Nicholson Esq<sup>r</sup> her Matys Lieuten<sup>t</sup> and Governor Gen<sup>ll</sup> of her Matys Colony & Dominion of Virginia in America, or in his absence to the Lieuten<sup>t</sup> Governor or Commander in Chief of the said Colony for the time being.

Virginia.